



## Selected Coverage June 2008

### **National**

AAC&U News  
All About Jazz  
Broadway World  
National Public Radio  
The Chronicle for Higher Education

### **Local and Others**

City Newspaper  
Democrat and Chronicle  
Messenger-Post  
Newspapers  
RNews  
WHAM TV 13  
Akron Beacon Journal  
Minnesota Public Radio  
Las Vegas Sun

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

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#### ***NPR Music (June 8)***

##### **At 80, Charles Strouse Ready for 'Tomorrow'**

Charles Strouse doesn't have to put on a happy face as he enters his ninth decade. All kinds of birthday events are scheduled over the next several months. His autobiography, *Put on a Happy Face*, will be published in July and his 1960 show, *Bye Bye Birdie*, from which "Put on a Happy Face" became a breakout hit is still one of the most performed musicals in high schools around the country. The road to *Bye Bye Birdie* took Strouse from the **Eastman School of Music** – where he studied classical composition – to a summer camp for adults in the Adirondacks called Green Mansions, where he pounded the piano for dance rehearsals. Strouse also wrote a lot of songs, says his lyricist Lee Adams.

#### ***The Chronicle for Higher Education (June 20)***

##### **Entrepreneurship 101: Not Just for Business School Anymore**

Entrepreneurship is a natural fit for performing artists, says Ramon Ricker, senior associate dean for professional studies at the University of Rochester's **Eastman School of Music**. Mr. Ricker's class, "Entrepreneurship in Music," which teaches students about business entities, contracts, and filing taxes as a freelance musician — "the kinds of things 22-year-olds aren't thinking about but will be thinking about very soon," says Mr. Ricker — regularly draws long waiting lists. "We're trying to give our students tools that they will use to make the road to success in music a little smoother," he says. "To be successful, you can't just be a good player. You have to have some entrepreneurial savvy."

#### ***Democrat and Chronicle (June 29)***

##### **Piano competition, classes, concerts keep Eastman School humming**

Summer at the **Eastman School of Music** has arrived. It's a time for musicians to hunker down into specialized areas of intense study, something called "institutes." This summer's institutes feature the harpsichord, viola, harp, trumpet and trombone. Concerts this summer will feature the best those instruments have to offer.

### ***Minnesota Public Radio (June 3)***

#### **The Twin Cities bass foundation**

Gordon Johnson's colleagues often use words like rich, full and fat to describe his sound on the bass. ... Johnson has been a professional bassist ever since joining trumpeter Maynard Ferguson's big band in 1975. He later toured the world with the Paul Winter Consort, blues guitarist Roy Buchanan and Chuck Mangione before getting off the road at the end of the 1980s and returning to his Twin Cities home.

Johnson became an accomplished flute player and studied the instrument at the prestigious **Eastman School of Music**. But all through high school and college, he was also playing electric bass and guitar in rock bands. And along with studying the flute at Eastman he was playing bass in the school's jazz band.

### ***Huliq NEWS (June 4)***

#### **Mambo Kings Join Detroit Symphony Orchestra**

Internationally-recognized Latin music ensemble The Mambo Kings will team up with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and guest conductor Jeff Tyzik for a unique concert series incorporating Afro-Cuban and Latin jazz rhythms with classical music. Based out of Rochester, N.Y., The Mambo Kings formed in 1995 led by Richard DeLaney and have gained notoriety for their explosive brand of Afro-Cuban rhythms and jazz improvisation. Mambo Kings Founder and pianist DeLaney has been active as an arranger and composer since earning his master's degree from **the Eastman School** in 1978. He has taught piano and jazz piano at the Hochstein School of Music since 1985 and has directed the jazz ensemble program there since 2001.

### **MPNnow (June 4)**

#### ***Reliving history through music***

Elena O'Connor thinks having the ability to sing is powerful.

"It's just a really unique gift to be able to create music from your own body versus by doing it on an external instrument," she said. O'Connor, an actress and singer, will make her debut with Mercury Opera Rochester this weekend in the premiere of the opera "La Bohème" — a tale of

four bohemian artists who fall in love in Paris. O'Connor is a 1998 graduate of Penfield High School. She attended the **Eastman School of Music** and the University of Miami School of Music. She has appeared in productions of "Rigoletto," "Carmen" and "Alice and Wonderland." She also appeared at the Aspen Musical Festival where she won the festival's Vocal Concerto competition.

### ***Free Times (June 4)***

#### **Southeastern Piano Festival**

Marina Lomazov is as humble as she is talented. That's why the USC assistant professor and acclaimed international pianist is loathe to take much credit for creating and growing perhaps the Southeast's best all-around piano festival right here in Columbia, her adopted hometown. The festival runs from June 8 to 14 and features a variety of musical opportunities for the public and young pianists. Besides Kern, several other pianists also will be attending and performing. Douglas Humphreys, chairman of the piano department at the **Eastman School of Music**, will attend, as well as two winners of the Hilton Head Piano Competition: Hong Xu, who won in 2004, and Eric Zuber, who won in 2007.

### ***Democrat and Chronicle (June 5)***

#### **Eastman students win international chamber music competition**

Performing at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall in New York City on May 26, five **Eastman School of Music** students clinched the Grand Prize at the 2008 International Chamber Music Ensemble Competition.

The performance was the final round of the competition; earlier rounds took place in Boston between April and May. More than 70 groups entered the competition in various age groups and categories.

### ***Tahoe.com (June 13)***

#### **Truckee's Moody's Bistro & Lounge hosts Jazz Artists in Residency ...**

Jazz fans will have the chance to completely immerse themselves in the music of Grammy-nominated musicians when Moody's Bistro & Lounge hosts the Fourth Annual "Jazz Artists in Residency" for one unforgettable week July 7-12.

... Ben Wendel also brings his considerable talent to the 2008 JAIR lineup. Educated at the **Eastman School of Music** in New York, he has enjoyed multiple domestic and international tours with such artists as Cuban drumming legend Ignacio Berroa, Thelonious Monk Piano Competition Winner Tigran Hamasyan, Electronica artist Daedelus and Hip Hop artist Snoop Dogg. As a composer he has scored multiple films, received an ASCAP Jazz Composer Award and was a finalist in the 2007 International Songwriting Competition.

**Lancaster online (June 13)**  
**Former countian in Richter Piano Competition**

Lancaster native Hwaen Cho'que (Jeff Tomlinson) will be participating in the second Sviatoslav Richter International Piano Competition June 15-29. He will be one of 35 pianists from all over the world taking part in the Moscow competition, which was last held in 2005. The 15 jurors include such notable pianists as Valery Afanassiev, Idil Biret and Bella Davidovich. ... Cho'que was born near Cuzco, Peru and adopted by a Manheim Township couple when he was five years old. He began his musical training almost as soon as he arrived in the U.S. He studied with Cindy Wittenberg of Lititz, John Harrison, formerly of Elizabethtown and at the Pennsylvania Academy of Music. A graduate of Manheim Central High School, he holds bachelor and master of music degrees from the **Eastman School of music**, where he studied under Natalya Antonova. In addition to performing throughout the U.S., Europe and Asia, he has been a three-time fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center.

**Worcester Telegram (June 15)**  
**Singer has the best of both worlds**

Monica Hatch's performance engagement calendar from earlier this year immediately strikes one with its dualism. The classically trained soprano is also a woman who sings jazz. "JazzTimes" magazine has called her "one of the rare musicians who breeze between the jazz and classical worlds." Still, the truth is she loves both and enjoys getting to perform music from two sides of the jazz/classical equations. Her training "was more classical," she said. "But I started listening to jazz when I was quite young." ... Originally from North Haven, Conn., she studied

at the Juilliard School, and graduated from the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, New York, as a classical voice major. She received a master's in classical voice from the New England Conservatory in Boston.

**Daily Herald - Provo, UT (June 16)**  
**Monday Close-up: Hang gliding champion from Springville strives to ...**

Lisa Verzella stands quietly at the edge of the ridge at Point of the Mountain in Draper, her attention fixed on a windsock on the ridge in front of her. She watches patiently as the wind causes the tall grass below her to sway violently as if it were trying to escape its own roots in the steep hillside. The wind calms slightly and with a few graceful strides forward, she launches her hang glider smoothly, its wings cutting through the chilly evening wind. ... Verzella is one of the world's top cross-county hang glider pilots. She is one of three women on the U.S. Women's World Hang Gliding Team, and will be traveling to Italy to represent the United States in competition next month. ... Verzella has a real understanding of the weather, its fickleness, and its potential effects on her flight. She originally went to school at the prestigious **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, N.Y., and still plays as lead trumpet for Ballet West. But her passion for flying persuaded her to extend her education to aid in her understanding of the wind.

**Appleton Post Crescent (June 16)**  
**Seniors bid Lawrence University farewell**

Four members of the Lawrence University faculty were honored for teaching excellence, scholarship or creative activity Sunday at the college's 159th commencement. Faculty honored were Fred Sturm, Paul Cohen, Bertrand Goldgar and Megan Pickett.

Sturm, the director of jazz studies and Kimberly-Clark Professor of Music, became the first faculty member to receive all three teaching honors given at commencement when he was presented the Award for Excellence in Creative Activity. He received the college's Young Teacher Award in 1983 and the Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2005. A 1973 Lawrence graduate, Sturm has established himself as one of the country's leading composers and jazz educators. He joined the Lawrence faculty in 1977, leaving in 1991 to teach

at the Eastman School of Music in New York. He returned to the Lawrence conservatory of music in 2002. Sturm holds a master's degree from **Eastman School of Music**. (*Also in the Lawrence University News*)

### **13WHAM-TV (June 16)**

#### **Scholarship Winners to Perform Free Concert at Jazz Fest**

On Monday night, organizers of the Rochester International Jazz Festival will present their annual jazz scholarships at the Eastman Theatre to Three **Eastman School of Music** students. The students will then perform a free concert for festival goers. Jazz Festival co-founder Marc Iacona said, "It's our goal to give back to the institution that's been helping us for the seventh year now. We made a decision from the first year to get involved with the school, and one of the best ways to get involved was to get involved with the jazz scholarship studies."

### **Las Vegas Sun (June 17)**

#### **Las Vegas guitar festival**

*A feature story on the festival says:* The concert series is centered on cultural diversity and performers dedicated to specific styles of music. Cobo, originally from Colombia, will perform mostly Latin American music, including tangos. Steven Thachuk of Canada is known for his classical work as well as his arrangements of pop music; expect to hear some traditional stuff, including Izaac Albeniz, and then Radiohead or the Beatles. Nicholas Goluses, a performer who teaches at the **Eastman School of Music**, will perform Piazzolla tangos and a few pieces by Greek composer Mikis Theodorakis.

### **Powell River Peak (June 19)**

#### **Harpist lives her passion**

Every few years, a true artist is born. Many are destined to take a day job and enjoy their "hobbies" in private; few rise to the top to astonish all with their artistic prowess. Rita Costanzi is one of those few. Daughter of trained musicians, having played harp since she was nine and piano since she could reach the keys, Costanzi possesses skills that have transported her all over the globe in the name of music. ... Costanzi was born in Rochester, New York, into a musical family. Her father was a noted violist and professor of music at the **Eastman School of**

**Music**. ... Costanzi went on to study harp at the college program at **Eastman**, eventually winning a grant to spend a year in Paris finishing her studies. ... Costanzi spent three years with the orchestra in Vancouver, going on to play part-time in the CBC Radio Orchestra, performing solo concerts, chamber music, and teaching, juggling this with raising her two children. ... Costanzi has been appointed to the New York City University's faculty of music.... Costanzi has also spearheaded a Harp for Healing program. Information on this is available on her website at [www.ritacostanzi.com](http://www.ritacostanzi.com).

### **Akron Beacon Journal (June 19)**

#### **The Ohio Light Opera reconstructs shows to their past splendor for 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

There's nothing that makes Ohio Light Opera's artistic director Steven Daigle happier than bringing a forgotten work like Marinka back to life. For this summer's 30th anniversary year, OLO has tickled and coaxed and fussed over three shows, restoring and bringing them back for new runs after years of neglect. They're part of an eight-show, seven-week season by Ohio Light Opera, the professional company-in-residence at the College of Wooster. The season opens Friday and runs through Aug. 9.

During the winter months, Daigle serves as head of the opera program at the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, N.Y. He's back to the Freedlander Theatre as artistic director, leading the three old-new shows: Kalman's Marinka: The Mayerling Story; Franz Lehar's operetta The Czarevich; and Jerome Kern's operetta The Cabaret Girl. (*Also reported by The Morning Journal*)

### **City (June 20)**

#### **The lost art: Cary Ratcliff CD release party**

His new CD, "Kathryn Lewek Sings the Music of Cary Ratcliff," includes pieces he's been working on for years. Some were commissioned, others he wrote for his wife, Marjorie Relin. All are based on poems that, to the composer, begged to be sung. "[Writing art songs] is sort of a lost art, and I believe in it," Ratcliff says.

Ratcliff's new CD features two singers, long-time collaborator Allyn Van Dusen and **Eastman graduate Kathryn Lewek**, who was recently

named the grand prizewinner of the Orpheus National Vocal Competition.

### ***RNews (June 21)***

#### **Jazz Festival Wraps with Jam Session**

Nine days of Jazz music on the streets of Rochester came to an end Saturday night. For the seventh year, the Rochester International Jazz Festival drew large crowds.

Part of making this event a continued success is generating interest in Jazz in a new generation of musicians. And for the first time some professionals teamed up some less experienced artists for a jam session. Fifty aspiring Jazz musicians from all over the Rochester area were invited to the **Eastman School of Music** to play, and learn.

Bob Sneider has played guitar in Jazz bands all over the world. Now a teacher at the **Eastman School of Music**, he's inspired by playing with younger musicians. . . . Sneider came up with the idea of the "Free Jazz Jam Session for Kids" to spark an interest in the festival among students. "The more people that understand it will learn from it, appreciate it, and pass it on. And that's a very important thing," Sneider said. *(Also reported by Jazz@Rochester)*

### ***All About Jazz (June 24)***

#### **Rochester International Jazz Festival Wraps up Seventh Edition with Nine Magnificent Days of Music!**

The Festival once again dedicated special attention to its mission to build the next generation of musicians and music fans. Eighteen high school jazz bands were featured during all nine days of the Festival. The Festival's first-ever Jam Session for Kids was held and Nugent and Iacona presented their annual Jazz Scholarships to three **Eastman School of Music** (ESM) students to help them pursue their music education. The RIJF/ESM Scholarship was established in 2002.

### ***MPNnow.com (June 26)***

#### **VIDEO: Can't start without this song**

The next time you hear "The Star-Spangled Banner" at a sports game, listen carefully. That familiar voice may come from Brockport. Katie Bryant has opened pro games across the country with her rendition of the national anthem since

last August, when she sang before a Buffalo Bills preseason football game. Though busy, Katie continues her studies at Brockport High School, where she sings in the choir and in the group Mad Vocals. She also studies piano and voice at the **Eastman School of Music**, and hopes to eventually perform in musical theater. Her mother, Lori Bryant, thinks she'll probably reach her goals.

### ***Broadway World - New York (June 27)***

#### **Strouse at 80 Always Looking Toward Tomorrow**

It is with the deepest gratitude and respect that I share this interview with all of you for one of Broadway's greatest composers, Mr. Charles Strouse. And I apologize to Mr. Strouse if I gush, as I know from speaking with him that he really doesn't feel comfortable about people gushing, but I do it out of respect for the work he has done and continues to do.

STROUSE: Well, I went to music school fairly early in my life. I was 15 and wasn't sure at all that was what I wanted to do, but I showed an aptitude for it. I think when I was at school, the **Eastman School of Music**...which is a very serious music school...I started to have goals. They were basically in writing quartets in Bartók and Stravinsky...all the music I heard. All my fellow students and teachers appreciated the values and the counterpoint in Bach and all of that. And it seemed as though that was what I wanted to do.

### ***Democrat and Chronicle (June 29)***

#### **Piano competition, classes, concerts keep Eastman School humming**

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The Eastman Young Artists International Piano Competition returns after a one-year break. It took time off to gear up to become an even bigger event and will now occur every other August. The competition features some of the top young pianists vying for a scholarship to Eastman and is

free to the public, except for the finals and the winners recital.

As always, summer is also a great time to hear your favorite faculty and some special visiting artists. This year features Gene Bertoncini, former Eastman guitar professor, mezzo-soprano Allyn Van Dusen, pianist Lyudmila Lakisova and Andrei Pisarev, professor of piano at the Moscow Conservatory.

### ***AAC&U News (June/July)***

#### **Feature: AAC&U Member Innovations Entrepreneurship at Rochester**

Responding to these trends, the **University of Rochester** is fostering entrepreneurial skills in unexpected fields like education, engineering, nursing, and music—and in the business department, too. A 2003 grant from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation funded the university's Center for Entrepreneurship, an entity that collaborates with multiple departments to introduce entrepreneurship to students, regardless of their majors. Rochester is not the only school investing in the idea: the Kauffman Foundation has awarded grants to eighteen other universities for similar programs.

. . . Such experience, while intangible, is taught by focusing on skills and outcomes. Ray Ricker, director of the Institute for Music Leadership and professor for several entrepreneurship courses, believes that all students, regardless of major, should be able to envision the future and think across disciplines. And, in many ways, teaching entrepreneurship is similar to teaching music—notes, scales, and even music appreciation can all be taught, but you can't teach an individual to *be* a musician.

Ricker makes the distinction between teaching entrepreneurial skills and, in his case, music: he isn't trying to create entrepreneurs, but he is teaching skilled musicians entrepreneurial skills to better compete in their field. An example would be his "Entrepreneurship in Music" course: topics range from how to obtain grants to how to distribute and market your music independently to how to do your taxes (note: musicians can deduct a lot). Royalties, residuals, and creative property make the course sound, well, like a business class, but being able to adapt and succeed in other

arenas is as important as musical ability for Ricker's students. "It takes more than being a good player to be successful in music," he says. "You need to have other skills as well."

*(Note: There are numerous references every day in the media identifying musicians and scholars as Eastman School of Music alumni or current or former faculty; this report includes selected clippings.)*